



Four orphans, center, from Holy Family Home in Japan will spend the next few weeks living with Soldiers from the 1-27th Inf. Regt., 2nd SBCT, 25th ID. The Soldiers and their families are continuing a 58-year tradition of welcoming orphans from Holy Family Home.

Wolfhounds welcome Japanese orphans to Hawaii

Story and photos by
SGT. IAN IVES
2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs
25th Infantry Division

HONOLULU — Four orphans from Japan arrived here, July 21, to spend two weeks with the Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment “Wolfhounds,” 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, for the 58th annual summer visit from The Holy Family Home.

Following World War II, The Holy Family Home in Osaka was established to house orphans. On Christmas Day in 1949, roughly a dozen Wolfhounds led by Master Sgt. Hugh O’Reilly dedicated their spare time and donated part of their pay to support the orphanage.

In 1957, a tradition was established between the 1-27th Inf. Regt. and the home when the first two children were invited to visit Soldiers stationed in Hawaii.

“We are honored to be a part of the regiment and to carry on this wonderful tradition,” said Lt. Col. Neal Mayo, commander, 1-27th Inf.

For the next few weeks, the children have an opportunity to enjoy Hawaiian culture and experience the military way of life. They’re planning to visit the Dole Plantation, the Honolulu Museum of Art and the Waikiki Aquarium.

Another exciting event is the “Day as a Wolfhound.” Yuko O’Reilly, widow of Master Sgt. O’Reilly, will read to the children and tell the story of The Holy Family Home. There will also be a Stryker static display, an obstacle course and a Meal Ready-to-Eat for lunch.

Several families will house the children during their stay. Kirsten Jones and her husband, Sgt. Justin Jones, infantryman, 1-27th Inf., will host both visiting girls for one week.

“It is going to be interesting, because they don’t speak English, so we are going to have to figure that out, but we are really excited,” said Kirsten. “We are getting the two girls, so I will defiantly have to take them to do some girly stuff.”

“At the end of the of the day it is all about these children and honoring the legacy that Master Sgt. Hugh O’Reilly started that has lasted over 50 years,” said Mayo.



Family members and Soldiers from the 1-27th Inf. Regt. welcome four orphans from the Holy Family Home, Osaka, Japan, to Hawaii with lei, July 21, at Honolulu International Airport.

8th TSC, 25th ID Soldiers advance overall culinary skills

Story and photo by
SGT. JON HEINRICH
8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs
SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — A dozen food ser-

vice Soldiers from the 8th Theater Sustainment Command and the 25th Infantry Division participated in the Advanced Culinary Arts Training Program at the Bronco Dining Facility, here, July

7-23.

The program is designed to improve the overall skills of Army cooks in menu selection, preparation, cooking and presentation of meals.

Some of the training techniques taught were classical knife cuts, stock production, mother sauces, fine dining service and buffet production, said Sgt. 1st Class Erika Kelley, the senior food operations noncommissioned officer for 728th Military Police Battalion, 8th MP Brigade, 8th TSC.

On the final day of training, the 12 students prepared and served four-course meals consisting of a salad, soup, entrée and dessert to leaders from 25th ID and 8th TSC.

“Today’s training was intended to give our students a different outlook to the normal daily training we do,” Kelley said. “It was geared towards the special duty positions that are available to 92Gs (the military occupational specialty designation for food service Soldiers) such as Enlisted Aid and

the C20 Program.”

The C20 Program is a nominative program that trains Army cooks to perform their job aboard military aircraft.

“The training was really good. They taught us a lot, like baking, cooking and how to do it from scratch,” said Spc. John Paul Rodriguez, a food service specialist with 29th Engineer Bn., 3rd Bde. Combat Team, 25th ID.

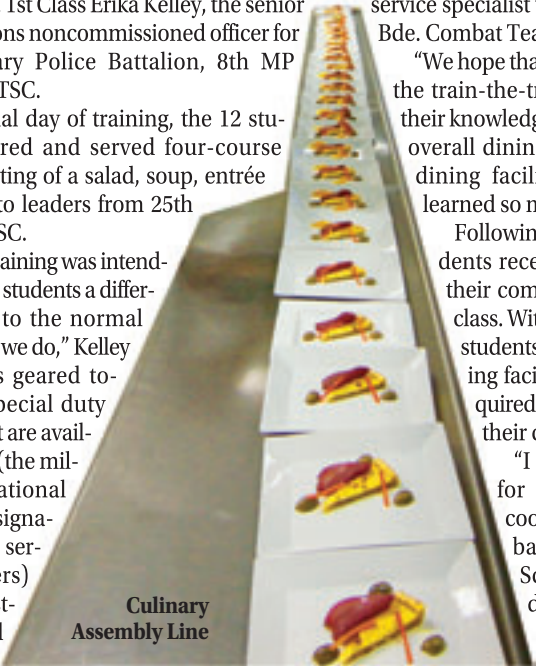
“We hope that the NCOs and Soldiers use the train-the-trainer concept and spread their knowledge to their peers to make the overall dining experience better in our dining facilities,” Kelley said. “They learned so many cost-effective meals.”

Following the food service, the students received certificates signifying their completion of the culinary arts class. With the training complete, the students will return to their unit dining facilities to use their newly acquired culinary skills and help train their coworkers in culinary arts.

“I just want to say thank you for all the support from the cooks, all the support from the battalion, company and Schofield Barracks,” Rodriguez said. “I hope all the cooks can go to this class.”



Army food service specialists prepare a pork tenderloin entrée course to serve to patrons on the last day of their Culinary Arts training, July 23, at the Bronco Dining Facility. The training taught 14 culinary arts techniques to 12 Soldiers the 8th TSC and 25th ID.





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USARPAC greets new edition to ‘One Team’

Story and photos by
STAFF SGT. KYLE J. RICHARDSON
U.S. Army-Pacific Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — As the wind brushed across the colors of the 15 subordinate and theater-enabling commands, Maj. Gen. Christopher Hughes was honored at a Flying V ceremony, here, July 23.

Hughes is no stranger to U.S. Army Pacific; his 32-year career brings him back to the Asia-Pacific region to serve as USARPAC chief of staff.

“Marguerite and I are both thrilled to be here—personally and professionally,” said Hughes. “USARPAC, in my opinion, is a pioneer for strategic innovation and agility here in the Pacific.”

“You have to understand the significance of the chief of staff position,” said USARPAC commander Gen. Vincent K. Brooks, noting that USARPAC is a unique organization with more than 106,000 people across 16 time zones. “It is a direct reporting headquarters to the Department of the Army as well as U.S. Pacific Command. The position was elevated from colonel to major general in 2013 as part of the Army’s investment to the strategic rebalance.”

Hughes will be in charge of the staff that keeps it all going, explained Brooks.

“He is one highly developed officer with unique depth and breadth that he is now bringing to this command,” said Brooks. “Best of all, he brings an experienced Army spouse, Marguerite, to our ohana as well.

We are fortunate indeed to have the Hughes family as a part of our team and I look forward to serving with them. So welcome back to the ‘One Team’ ohana.”

Hughes removed one of the dual hats from deputy commander Maj. Gen. Todd McCaffrey, who held the seat as interim chief of staff.

Hughes looked out across the field at the Soldiers standing tall, representing history and Army Pacific heritage, and said, “I’m grateful for the opportunity to serve this great team here in Hawaii and I look forward to the many challenges ahead.”



Maj. Gen. Christopher Hughes, above left, addresses the audience during a Flying V ceremony in his honor at historic Palm Circle, July 23; top right, Gen. Vincent K. Brooks (center), commander, USARPAC, with his wife, Carol, tells Hughes about the history of the USARPAC crest.



Above left, incoming 599th Trans. Bde. commander, Col. James Smith, speaks to assembled guests after the brigade's change of command ceremony. Above right, Maj. Gen. Susan Davidson, commander, MSDDC, offers guidance and congratulations to Smith. The ceremony was held on the fantail of the battleship USS Missouri, Pearl Harbor, July 23.



599th changes command aboard Mighty Mo

Story and photos by
DONNA KLAPAKIS

599th Transportation Brigade Public Affairs

FORD ISLAND — Col. Shannon C. Cox relinquished command of the 599th Transportation Brigade to Col. James M. Smith in a change of command ceremony, July 23, on the fantail deck of the Battleship Missouri Memorial here. Smith said he looked forward to commanding the unit.

“I am proud to join Team Pacific and reinforce the already exemplary efforts of providing the combatant commander and service component commanders flexible surface deployment and distribution options to support theater security and unified operations,” Smith said.

“I look forward to meeting and serving with our established host nation partners through the region, as well as our strategic partners across the Department of Defense and commercial industry. I’m also looking forward to forging new partnerships as the global mission dictates,” he continued.

Cox will move to U.S. Pacific Command headquarters at Camp H.M. Smith, where she will be in charge of plans and exercises for the logistics directorate. She thanked the battalions and each section of the brigade

staff, pointing out their individual contributions to the command.

“I appreciate everything that each of you do on a daily basis to make your unit the best that you can, always accomplishing every mission you have been tasked with,” she said.

Maj. Gen. Susan A. Davidson, commanding general of the 599th Trans. Bde.’s higher headquarters, Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois, presided over the ceremony. She praised both outgoing and incoming commanders.

“Throughout her time here, Shannon sustained a ‘ready for war’ mentality that filtered down through the brigade and through her battalions, but at the same time, she also fostered a command climate that placed

the care and safety of her people first and foremost,” Davidson said. “Coming to us with a wealth of experience, James clearly understands the importance of supporting the warfighter,” Davidson continued. “He understands what it takes to create and sustain support at the point of engagement.

“He has multiple combat deployments in support of our Soldiers: Operations Southern Watch, Iraqi Freedom, New Dawn, and he has served in the right positions to give him the skills and experience to lead,” she added.

This change of command was the sixth for the 599th on the USS Missouri. It was especially significant because Sept. 2 will be the 70th anniversary of the signing of the instrument of surrender to end World War II onboard the ship.

Support to the 599th

Multiple Army units generously lent support for the 599th’s ceremony. Of note:

- The 338th U.S. Army Reserve Band brass quintet from Whitehall, Ohio
- A 25th Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade detail of troops and ushers
- The Pacific Regional Health Command color guard
- Chaplain (Lt. Col.) James W. Blount, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii
- Schofield Barracks Health Clinic medics



CHAPLAIN (MAJ.) JEFFERY VAN NESS
U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii

The Lancaster Township Fire Department in Pennsylvania posted photos on its Facebook page, May 28, about a small hero who assisted them with a rescue.

Janeysha Cruz, 6, spotted a kitten trapped at the bottom of a storm drain and her mother contacted the fire department. When Deputy Fire Chief Glenn Usdin arrived, he realized this was no job for him, or any other adult; the opening to the drain was far too narrow and the firefighters were all too big.

With permission from Janeysha’s mother, Usdin lowered Janesha through the small opening, three feet down, to the bottom of the drain. She coaxed the kitten into her hands and passed it up to Usdin, who then pulled the little girl up out of the drain.

An article on the Associated Press wire service was

titled, “Firefighters too big, but girl just right to rescue kitten.” Sometimes it pays to be small. Many parents who locked themselves out of their homes have had a



Photo by Lancaster Township Fire Department

Janeysha Cruz is praised by Glenn Usdin, deputy chief, LTFD, and the kitten she rescued.

Sometimes it pays to be small

small and flexible child slip through a partially opened window to unlock the front door.

Until the rescue of a kitten became necessary, this little girl lived in a world in which size and physical strength was all that mattered. Then her size and little hands became very important. Perhaps you feel as if you’re in a world that barely appreciates your abilities? “God has made everything beautiful for its own time. He has planted eternity

in the human heart, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God’s work from beginning to end.” (Ecclesiastes 3:11)

Don’t be discouraged or doubt your worth to society. Perhaps your purpose has not yet manifested itself and you are still a hidden gem. Don’t lose faith. Keep striving to be that blessing to others and God. Improve and develop your skills. Your time will surely come.

Voices of Ohana

As the keiki go back to school, we ask

What was your favorite subject in school and why?

By 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command



“Sociology. Enjoy learning how people learn, interact, and operate along with the theory of why people do what they do.”

Capt. Jonathan Harbin
Emergency management, 9th MSC



“Music. It was my first class of the day and a wonderful way to create something beautiful.”

Sgt. 1st Class Brenda Jenkins
Senior human resources NCO 9th MSC



“Biology and French. I loved learning about human anatomy a different language and France’s history.”

Staff Sgt. Bonnie Paiz
Human Resources sergeant 9th MSC



“American History. I find it fascinating how the country came to be and how the changes made it better.”

Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Voye
Senior training NCO 9th MSC



“Math. I like the challenge of problem solving — the ability to look at the numbers and work out the problem in my head.”

Staff Sgt. Herotia Porter
Retirement services officer 9th MSC

Dangerous motorcyclists give Army a bad name

DENNIS DRAKE
Public Affairs Officer
U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii

Army leadership continues to stress the importance of motorcycle safety, but last week’s tragic death of a Soldier on his motorcycle heading for early-morning PT underscores its importance. Yesterday, as I drove home on Kunia Road following a line of cars down the narrow, two-laned road, a motorcyclist suddenly came speeding past me, flying around four cars in a no passing zone, to barely make it back into his lane to avoid a head-on collision with on-coming traffic. It happened too fast to see his license plate number, but what I did see were his Army Combat Uniforms. He was wearing his personal protective equipment, but he was clearly a Soldier. All safety equipment and training can’t compensate for reckless motorcycle driving by our Soldiers — his an-

tics put a least six lives at risk, including his own, and he gave the Army a very bad name. Last week while driving down Fort Weaver Road, a wide six-lane highway, — I approached an intersection in the middle lane as the traffic light turned to yellow. I slowed to stop but the car next to me in the outside lane sped-up and drove through the yellow light. A motorcyclist behind that car, again a Soldier in ACUs, barreled across the intersection. He ran the red light and just missed two pedestrians stepping off the curb. A split second later, he may have hit them. Two weeks ago, four motorcyclists heading northbound on



Kunia dodged and weaved in and around a column of cars on the narrow road. They weren’t in uniform this time, but all four turned into Schofield’s Lyman Gate. What kind of message does this driving send to the civilian community? All Soldiers who ride motorcycles, especially in uniform, must remember that they are visible symbols of the Army. Their presence in public represents the values that our Army stands for: leadership, duty, respect, selflessness, honesty, integrity, courage. Remember that reckless motorcycle riding tarnishes those values. Remember that disregard for personal and public safety is not a value taught anywhere in the Army. Remember that that this is the finest Army in the world, defending this great nation, and that all Soldiers are the faces of the Army to the community. Please remember this as you ride today.



Photo by 3rd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs, 25th Infantry Division

Soldiers from the 325th BSB, 3rd BCT, listen to instructions before a scavenger hunt, July 24, that had them identify resources that could help them during times of stress.

Bronco Brigade takes new approach to mental health

CAPT. TANYA ROMAN
3rd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs
25th Infantry Division

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Soldiers of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, “Broncos” 25th Infantry Division, took a new approach to suicide prevention by spending July 24 participating in scavenger hunts, town halls and small-group exercises aimed at educating them on how to identify someone contemplating suicide and find the resources available to them, here.

In the past, many have been concerned about the stigma associated with seeking help from a behavioral health professional and what it could do to their career. The event worked to defunct some of those myths.

“There is nothing wrong with having problems. Everybody has something — we all have something,” said Maj. Ashley Chatigny, psychiatrist, 25th ID. “We have the best health-care available here, and you have the support of the command.”

Chatigny stressed that there’s no shame in having issues and getting help for those issues.

“It does not make you less of a person,” she said. “It makes you a person.”

The Broncos began the day with a scavenger hunt, in which they ran to different locations on post, such as the Behavioral Health Clinic; Army Community Services; the Soldiers Chapel; and the Army Substance Abuse Program. Soldiers received a quick briefing describing what programs and support were avail-

able to them at each location. “The message during this scavenger hunt this morning is that these facilities are here to help you, they’re here for a reason, and it’s not bad to go to any of these places, if you are having problems coping with any kind of stressor,” said Lt. Col. Patrick Disney, commander, 325th Brigade Support Battalion. “It is a sign of strength to get help.” Soldiers attended town halls and small group sessions where they interacted with behavioral health professionals, and had the opportunity to ask questions and discuss ways to help the people they care about during crisis situations. “My grandma hid her struggles really well, I never noticed she was upset, she was a great grandma,” said a Soldier from Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 3-7th Field Artillery Regiment. “She might still be alive if she had attended an event like this.” This event is one of many planned in the Bronco Brigade’s overall resiliency program, and it had a profound effect on many of the troops.

“If my battle buddy was contemplating suicide, I would get them to a safe environment, try to comfort them and let my chain of command know,” said Spc. Shawn Latocha, fire support specialist, HHB, 3-7th FA. “I’d want them to know that getting help doesn’t make them look weak, but that the reality is the opposite. It makes you look strong.”

“Your chain of command supports you getting help. We need each and every one of you,” said Disney. “Every life matters.”



Photo by 3rd Brigade Combat Team Public Affair, 25th Infantry Division

Dr. (Maj.) Ashley Chatigny (left) speaks to Bronco Soldiers from HHC, 3rd BCT, during a small group session as part of the brigade’s Suicide Stand-down, July 24.

Final rule puts more teeth into Military Lending Act

TERRI MOON CRONK
DOD News, Defense Media Activity

WASHINGTON — The Defense Department on July 21 closed loopholes to protect men and women in uniform from predatory lending practices, President Barack Obama said at the 116th Veterans of Foreign Wars National Convention in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The heightened level of financial and consumer-rights protection against unscrupulous practices, called the final rule of the Military Lending Act, covers all forms of payday loans, vehicle title loans, refund anticipation loans, deposit advance loans, installment loans, unsecured open-end lines of credit and credit cards, DOD officials explained.

“We’re going to keep fighting to give our troops and veterans a chance to enjoy the American freedom you helped defend,” the president said.

“There’s already a lot to protect our troops and families against unscrupulous predatory lenders, but some of the worst abusers, like payday lenders, are exploiting loopholes to trap our troops in a vicious cycle of crushing debt,” he continued.

“It is the right thing to do,” he said of the new rule. Added Deputy Defense Secretary Bob Work, “With this action, the department takes an important stand against companies that can prey on our men and women in uniform.

“This new rule addresses a range of credit products that previously escaped the scope of the regulation, compromising the financial readiness of our troops. Today, with our regulatory and enforcement partners, we stand united in support of our service members and

their families,” he continued. The revision began with a three-year study by the Defense and Treasury departments, Federal Trade Commission, and financial regulators such as the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., Federal Reserve Board, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and the National Credit Union Administration, DOD officials said. Congress passed the Military Lending Act in 2006 to provide specific protections for active-duty service members and their families in consumer credit transactions. Among other protections, the law caps at 36 percent the interest rate on covered loans to active-duty service members, requires disclosures to alert service members of their rights, and prohibits creditors from requiring a service member to submit to arbitration in a dispute.

New rule adds protection

The latest rule allows for industry compliance by Oct. 1, followed by a staggered implementation period, DOD officials said.

The rule will help protect all active-duty service members and their families from committing to loans with excessive fees and charges.

Service members still will have access to no-interest loans, grants, and scholarships from the four military relief societies, and not all credit products will be affected by the regulation — notably residential mortgages and purchase-money loans to buy cars, for example, which are excluded from the MLA’s definition of consumer credit, officials said.



Master Sgt. Lee-Ann Quemado shares a touching and emotional moment with her daughter Chloe following the deployment ceremony at the United States Army Reserve Daniel K. Inouye Complex, July 26.

Friends, families bid farewell to unit military team chaplains

Story and photos by
CAPT. MARYWHITNEY WHITTAKER
9th Mission Support Command Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER FLATS — Friends, family members and fellow Soldiers gathered, here, July 26, to bid aloha to Lt. Col. Jonathan Bouriaque and Master Sgt. Lee-Ann Quemado.

Bouriaque and Quemado are the two-member unit ministry team (UMT) that makes up the 124th Chaplain Detachment. The 124th was activated in December 2006 and this is its second deployment. The UMT first deployed to Kuwait in 2011. The 124th will deploy to Europe in late August in support of Operation Freedom Sentinel. They will provide religious services and support to service members deployed to the region.

This is not the first deployment for Bouriaque or Quemado, and they understand their mission.

Bouriaque spent six years on active duty as an intelligence officer. He transitioned to the Army Reserve and, after achieving the rank of major, felt called to the chaplaincy. He deployed to Kuwait in 2006.

Quemado was born in Honolulu and raised in Wiesbaden, Germany. She is a graduate of James Campbell High School. Her previous deployment was as team leader and Construction Operations NCO for B Company, 411th

Engineer Battalion in Camp Liberty, Iraq. The ceremony was a small, emotional send-off for the two Soldiers. Family members shed tears with the playing of the Army Song at the conclusion of the ceremony. “The ministry team plays two very important roles; first providing religious support, which is crucial to the resilience and morale of Soldiers, and second to be a staff advisor to the commander for religious outreach,” said Col. George Dixon, commander, U.S. Army-Pacific Support Unit. “We wish you luck on this journey and we stand ready to support you and your families throughout the deployment and after.” “We are going to a major gateway base so this is a great opportunity to see a lot of Soldiers and provide religious stability as they move from one location to another. If I feel like I have helped one person feel like they were better off coming here, then I feel accomplished,” said Bouriaque. Dixon did not leave out the important role of the chaplain assistant. “The chaplain assistant plays a vital role because they provide security for the chaplain as well as a noncommissioned officer perspective for the chaplain,” said Dixon. Following the ceremony, the ministry team received lei and farewell hugs.



Photos courtesy of the 643rd Engineer Company

(Above left photo) Spc. Wihbedihmbom Bonduh, right, 643rd Eng. Co., assists Royal Thai Army engineers to set up scaffolding during the construction of a schoolhouse for the 5th- and 6th-grade children. Meanwhile, Engineers lay rock, right photo, to prepare for sidewalk concrete alongside the schoolhouse construction project during the Hanuman Guardian 15 exercise, May-June.

Engineers partner to build schoolhouse for Thai kids

SGT. 1ST CLASS NICOLE HOWELL
8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

SARABURI, Thailand — In a continued effort to strengthen multinational partnerships across the Pacific theater, U.S. and Thai army engineers partnered to build a two-room schoolhouse for the fifth and sixth grade children, here, during the exercise Hanuman Guardian 15.

In less than 30 days, the Engineering Civic Ac-



Photo courtesy of the 643rd Engineer Company

Spc. Daniel Roberts, 643rd Eng. Co., works with a Thai counterpart in Saraburi, Thailand.

tion Program team, consisting of 25 engineers from the 643rd Eng. Company, 84th Eng. Battalion, 130th Sustainment Brigade, 8th Theater Sust. Command, along with 29 Royal Thai Army (RTA) engineers, created a multipurpose building from the plans to the paint.

“The new building gives them two new classrooms with a partition wall between the two rooms,” said 2nd Lt. Robert Hofer, 3rd platoon leader, 643rd Eng. Co. “The wall between the two rooms is removable so they can also have a community gathering room.”

Although there was a spoken language barrier between the engineers, their technical proficiency and knowledge allowed them to communicate by using the language of engineering.

“We have the same jobs as the RTA, just doing it in different countries,” said Hofer. “We learned some construction tricks from them, like using some materials that are more common in Thailand for new uses. For example, they use fishing line to mark the edges of buildings during surveying, which helps because it stretches when people trip on it. We use regular string or chalk lines which doesn’t work as well.”

Not only did the team use this time to absorb new methods to increase efficiency, they were able to focus on skills they do not get to perform regularly.

“The mission definitely improved our construction proficiency,” said Hofer. “We were challenged with some construction tasks like some electrical work, plumbing, roof work that we don’t usually get permission to do because of permitting and licensing issues. I wouldn’t call where we were an austere environment, but there was definitely less support than back in garrison so we had to be more flexible IOT get things done, so we definitely became a more adaptable unit.”

This larger scale construction project was completed project five days earlier than expected, giving them time to assist with other deficiencies in the area.

“To support the new building, we also did some drainage work so the area around the school is vastly improved, which will help with mosquitos,” said Hofer. “This was needed due to flooding in the area. We had the building lifted off the ground by three feet by bringing in soil and compacting it. This added 3-4 days to construction. We also did the bathroom, full electrical work, and put slip resistant paint on the sidewalk we made, so there were quite a few more construction tasks for us than normal.

On the last day, the team, local children and distinguished visitors participated in a dedication ceremony.

“The most rewarding part of the mission was having the local Thai people and children thank us for our work,” Hofer said. “After the dedication ceremony, all the school children shook our hands to thank us. We taught them to shake hands, so it was cool they did that at the end.”

For Hofer, the satisfaction was also building relationships with the Thai people.

“The villagers we worked with had never met Americans before, and now these kids will associate America with the nice new building they got at their school,” Hofer said. “I don’t think there’s much that can top that. It was definitely one of the most rewarding things I’ve done and something I and my Soldiers will remember for the rest of our lives.”

Hanuman Guardian

Hanuman Guardian is an annual bilateral army-to-army exercise that takes place May-June, co-hosted by the Royal Thai Army and U.S. Army-Pacific. It is designed to improve humanitarian assistance/disaster relief capabilities, enhance multiple technical capabilities and improve the quality of life in rural communities.



Photo by 1st Lt. Andrew Schumaker, Task Force Talon, 94th Army Air Missile Defense

Leaders return salutes from TF Talon, 94th AAMDC. From left, Gov. Eddie Calvo; Brig. Gen. Rodrick Leon-Guerrero, Guam National Guard; Brig. Gen. Andrew Toth, 36th Wing; Rear Adm. Bette Bolivar, Joint Region Marianas; and Capt. Andy Anderson, Naval Base Guam.

94th joins liberation parade

MAJ. JONATHAN STAFFORD
Army News Service

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam — For most Americans July 21 is just another day in the middle of summer, but for Americans on the U.S. territory of Guam it is the island-wide holiday called “Liberation Day.”

This holiday is held in recognition of the day that the Battle of Guam began, 71 years ago, to free the island from the oppressive Imperial Japanese occupation during World War II. This year’s holiday held extra meaning for the Soldiers of Task Force Talon, 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, as it was the first time the unit participated in Liberation Day activities since deploying to Guam over two years ago.

Task Force Talon is the Army unit tasked with defending the skies over Guam from any ballistic missile attack with the first forward deployed Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) missile defense system. Due to the task force’s community outreach efforts, it was invited to march in the island’s annual Liberation Day Parade.

“It was a real honor to be part of such an event with such tradition and meaning to the people here on Guam,” said Capt. Daniel Lessard, commander, Company C, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, whose unit is in charge of site security for the task force.

Soldiers from the task force marched through Guam’s capital city of Hagatna while being cheered by the thousands of people lining the street to watch the parade.

“The enthusiasm showed by the people

of Guam as we marched along the parade route was tremendous,” said Capt. Sheiloh Carlos, commander, Battery D, 2nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment, 11th Air Defense Artillery Brigade.

For one warrior, marching in the parade took on a more personal significance.

“As a kid growing up on Guam, I used to watch this parade,” said Master Sgt. Ronald Quinata, Task Force Talon operations sergeant major and native Chamorro. “Marching in it, now, as a member of Task Force Talon, is something I will never forget.”

Quinata organized the task force’s parade participation.

The parade also had special historical significance for the ADA Soldiers in Task Force Talon, who are the first active duty air defenders to deploy to Guam since members of the Army’s 7th Anti-Aircraft Automatic Weapons Battalion landed on Agat Beach during the Battle of Guam in 1944.

“It is a great feeling to know that we are continuing the mission of defending the skies over Guam started by air defenders 71 years ago,” said Task Force Talon commander, Lt. Col. Jeffrey Slown. “Marching in the Liberation Day Parade gives us an opportunity to honor their service along with all the other veterans who fought in the Battle of Guam.”

The parade ended at the Governor’s Complex, completing the task force’s first-ever march in the Guam Liberation Day Parade. Based on the positive feedback from the Soldiers and the cheers from the crowd, Task Force Talon looks forward to being part of this annual Guam tradition for many more years to come.



Brooks tours Dunning Hall during renovation

Story and photo by
JOSEPH BONFIGLIO
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Honolulu District Public Affairs

The Honolulu District hosted a site visit, Friday, for Gen. Vincent K. Brooks, commander, U.S. Army-Pacific, at the Army Corps of Engineers’ Building T-112 renovation project.

Built in 1907, Bldg. T-112, or “Dunning Hall,” is an important structure and a key part of the Palm Circle National Historic Landmark District.

Renovation work includes the removal of hazardous materials and exterior lanai walls; structural repair; replacing windows and doors; adding new lighting and data systems; and adding upgraded fire sprinkler and fire alarm systems.

The historic building’s character-defining features include a symmetric floor plan and elevation; Doric colonnades; an open lanai with exposed contoured rafters; old growth redwood clapboard siding; double-hung windows; a gabled roof; and double-entry doors with transoms. These character-defining features had been covered-up, removed, or in-filled in various renova-

tions over the years. The Corps is painstakingly working with its contractor, GSI Pacific Inc., to restore the features with in-kind materials in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior’s “Standards for Rehabilitation.”

Two interior walls defining the once-original front-to-rear entry vestibule, on each floor, will be restored or rebuilt. Cast-iron columns within the first-floor space, which are currently encased, will be exposed again. The design team coordinated and consulted with the U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Directorate of Public Works-Historical Division throughout the design process, and the Corps is working closely with them throughout the construction.

The following historic items are being protected and preserved for posterity:

- Historic graffiti on a second floor column,
- A basement foundation post and,
- Charred rafters from an historic fire that the building survived.

The Honolulu District takes great pride in this historic renovation project, and it was honored to share its work with Brooks and his staff.



Honolulu District supervisory engineer Steve Yamamoto shows Gen. Vincent K. Brooks, commander, USARPAC, World War II graffiti in the basement Fort Shafter’s Dunning Hall. The decades-old graffiti, painted on a pillar, insults belligerent leaders Hitler, Tojo and Mussolini.



Photo by Sgt. Christopher Hammond, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

Soldiers from 1-27th Inf. Regt., 2nd SBCT, conduct a load-out and fly-away validation exercise, July 21, using two Strykers aboard a C-17 cargo plane as part of the 25th ID Contingency Response Force Mission.

Joint training exercise validates unit for CRF

SGT. IAN IVES
2nd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs
25th Infantry Division

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM — Soldiers from Company B, 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, were validated as a Contingency Response Force during a joint training exercise, here, with the 30th Aerial Port Squadron, 914th Airlift Wing Force Reserve out of Niagara Falls, New York, July 21.

The validation ensures the unit is prepared to rapidly deploy within the Asia-Pacific area of responsibility for humanitarian assistance or combat operations.

“I think any time you are working outside of your comfort zone with a sister service, you get to see at a macro-level of what it takes to complete the mission,” said Capt. Kevin Ramirez, commander, Co. B, and the officer in charge of the validation.

Before the validation, the 1-27th completed a sequence of events to ensure its Soldiers and equipment were deployment-ready. Soldiers started by receiving an alert call that started from the most senior leadership down to the junior enlisted.

Once receiving this alert, Soldiers went through a series of inspections and medical evaluations to prove that both troops and equipment were op-

erable in a deployed environment.

After completing all of the required validations, Co. B prepared to convoy to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Ramirez said his Soldiers spent several hours coordinating and preparing equipment for the validation exercise.

“I think the biggest take away is the prep work to assure we make the proper coordination with the Air Force and all the other agencies involved to make sure everything runs smoothly from start to finish,” said Ramirez.

Within a short period of time, the 1-27th received authorization to conduct the flyaway, and Soldiers loaded into their vehicles to move out.

It was the first time Pfc. Nicholas Houston, a native of Jackson, Michigan, conducted a mission of this importance.

“I feel like I will have better understanding of what it takes to make a rapid deployment, and meet the CRF standards,” he said.

Once the convoy moved to the flight line, it did not take long to load about 30 Soldiers, two Strykers and one humvee into the C-17A Globemaster III, where Airmen and Soldiers worked side-by-side to load and secure the vehicles in the aircraft.

“The Army seems very willing to learn, to help and to assist,” said Tech. Sgt. Sherry Hunter, ramp load team. “So far it has been great.”

Broncos conclude Hamel

Story and photos by
SGT. BRIAN C. ERICKSON

3rd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs
25th Infantry Division

ROCKHAMPTON, Australia — Soldiers assigned to 3rd Brigade Combat Team “Broncos,” 25th Infantry Division, successfully completed Exercise Hamel at Shoalwater Bay Training Area, July 18.

“This was a great exercise for my staff for a lot of reasons,” said Col. Scott W. Kelly, commander, 3rd BCT.

Kelly cited the interoperability between U.S. and the Australian forces for the success, adding that the Broncos enjoyed the opportunity to work beside the Australian army.

Australian soldiers absolutely loved working with the U.S., said Lt. Col. James McGann, Australian army and deputy commander for the 3rd BCT during the exercise, adding they enjoyed it because the Australian army sees the U.S. as being one of their closest allies.

“Our guys really learned a lot from them, and that is at all echelons,” said Kelly.

One of the areas Kelly emphasized was how well the Australians used camouflage to conceal everything from troops to heavy armored vehicles, stationary or moving.

McGann said the two forces are so similar in the way they plan, operate and execute that he could easily switch the uniforms between that soldiers and he wouldn’t be able tell the difference.

“This exercise was absolutely invaluable,” said Kelly. “We were able to gel together as a team.”

The Broncos will build upon these lessons as they continue on Pacific Pathways after additional training in northern Australia.

Hamel 15

Hamel was a certification exercise for the Australian 7th Brigade, occurring during the biennial exercise Talisman Sabre 15.



Broncos hold an after-action review of Exercise Hamel 15 at Camp Rocky, Rockhampton, July 19 (left). Maj. Gen. Charles A. Flynn, commander, 25th ID, gives a coin of excellence to a Soldier for his accomplishments during Exercise Hamel 15 on July 21.



Col. Scott W. Kelly, commander, 3rd BCT, 25th ID, receives an Australian slouch hat as a token of appreciation by Australian army Lt. Col. James McGann at Camp Rocky, Rockhampton, Australia, July 21. The slouch hat is the standard ceremonial headwear for all members of the Australian army.



Send announcements for Soldiers and civilian employees to news@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

Today

Pentagon Statement — “We take the safety of our service members, our DOD civilians, and the families who support them very seriously, and Secretary of Defense Ash Carter is currently reviewing recommendations from the services for making our installations and facilities safer — including our recruiting stations.

While we greatly appreciate the outpouring of support for our recruiters from the American public, we ask that individuals not stand guard at recruit-

HAWAII ARMY WEEKLY

ing offices as it could adversely impact our mission, and potentially create unintended security risks. We continue to partner with and rely on first responders for the safety of the communities where our service members live and work."

Pentagon Press Secretary Peter Cook

Mentors Wanted — Veterans Treatment Court is a specialty court that supports veterans transitioning back into society, and its backbone is its mentors. They’re looking for veterans to provide the support needed as their fellow veterans transition back into society. Veterans Treatment Courts have been implemented nationwide. However, it can only take as many veterans as it has volunteer veteran mentors. If you’re interested in becoming a mentor, call 433-0328.

August

1 / Saturday

Outreach Center Reduces Hours — The Army Community Service Out-

reach Center at Fort Shafter will reduce its operational hours to once weekly, every Tuesday, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Services available include information and referral and the ACS loan closet.

Effective today, Survivor Outreach Services will relocate from Fort Shafter to the Soldier and Family Assistance Center, Bldg. 663, Schofield Barracks. The main ACS center at Schofield Barracks will continue to provide services, weekdays, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

18 / Tuesday

Logistics — Chocolate, coconut water, crackers, coffee, local-style noodles and baked goods will be among some of the foods presented by 65 companies at the 18th annual American Logistics Hawaii show, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., at the Hawaii Prince Hotel, Waikiki. The annual business-to-business show provides Defense Commissary Agency and Army & Air Force Exchange service officials the opportunity to taste-test local products, and to interact one-on-one with Hawaii business owners, before recommending products for commissary and ex-

change shelves. DeCA and Exchange store directors and buyers will be in attendance.

DeCA grossed over \$5.6 billion dollars annually with sales from four Oahu commissaries accounting for over \$250 million.

Ongoing

OPM Data Breach Update — The Office of Personnel Management recently announced a data breach affecting the personal records of over 21 million individuals. Detailed information is provided by OPM on its website, offering information regarding the OPM incidents, with materials, training and useful information on best practices to secure data. Visit www.opm.gov/cybersecurity.

Bus Drivers & Truckers — Take advantage of the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration Military Skills Test Waiver Program. The program grants state licensing agencies

the authority to waive the skills test portion of the Commercial Driver’s License application for active duty or recently separated veterans who possess at least two years of safe driving experience operating a military truck or bus. Visit www.fmcsa.dot.gov/registration/commercial-drivers-license/military.

Reward — CID is offering a \$2,500 reward for info leading to the recovery of property, identification, arrest and conviction of person(s) responsible for the larceny of government property. The reward offer ends May 5, 2016.

A cable analyzer kit was reported stolen around Dec. 12-15, 2014. Anyone with information should contact the MPs at 655-5555 or CID at 224-4330. Confidentiality can be maintained.

\$1,000 Reward — On May 5, 2015, a government building was damaged by fire. CID is offering a reward to anyone with information concerning the arson or the identification of the person(s) involved. Call 655-7114 /768.



Traffic Report lists detours, road work, construction and noise advisories received by press time from U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii and Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) sources. Visit www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil/info/trafficcalendar.htm for the latest Army Hawaii traffic advisories. Unless otherwise noted, all phone numbers are area code 808.

Today

K-Bay Access — Starting Aug. 1, changes to the vehicle policies base access and enforcement will go into effect by the Provost Marshal’s Office aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii. Recent events have led to these policy changes. All vehicles on the installation will be clearly identified by one of the following means, a MCB Hawaii decal or a paper pass. These changes apply to all base employees such as a civilian and active duty, service members from other bases, retirees, Friends

of Kaneohe Bay pass-holders and visitors.

Who the changes impact:

- Active duty and civilian Marines aboard MCB Hawaii without a current base decal will need to request a decal at the Vehicle Registration Office, Bldg. 1095
 - Retirees will need to request either an annual paper pass or decal at the Vehicle Registration Office, Bldg. 1095
 - Active duty service members from other bases will need to request an annual paper pass at the Vehicle Registration Office, Bldg. 1095
 - Friends of K-Bay will need to request an annual paper pass at the Vehicle Registration Office, Bldg. 1095
 - Visitors will need to request a day pass at the Front Gate Pass House
- To register your vehicle you need:
- Valid Hawaii State vehicle registration
 - Valid Hawaii no-fault insurance
 - Valid Hawaii state safety inspection
 - Current DoD authorized identification card
 - Completed MCB

Pedestrian Safety — On Tuesday, the state began its 6th annual Pedestrian Safety Month. HDOT’s

Walk Wise Hawaii program is teaming up with all four county police departments. Pedestrian-related community events and campaigns will take place throughout the month to encourage safe pedestrian behaviors and raise driver awareness of pedestrians.

Call 587-2160 or visit www.facebook.com/pages/Walk-Wise-Hawaii.

Lauhala Road — A road closure that began Tuesday along Lauhala Road in the housing area for earth and roadwork will continue through Sept. 28. A detour will be performed in phases.

August

3 / Monday

Foote Note — There will be a road closure at Schofield’s Foote Avenue, south corridor, between Road A and Flagler Road, for utility installation and site work related to the Quad B barracks renovation. Foote will be closed at Flagler, and traffic will be rerouted southeast toward Foote Gate, while northbound traffic will be detoured to Waianae Ave. Work begins at 8:30 p.m. until 5 a.m. Construction is scheduled to end Aug. 28.

4 / Tuesday

Public Meeting — HDOT will hold a public informational meeting, 6-8 p.m. at Waimanalo School, for a noise variance permit to perform nighttime construction work on the Kalanianaʻole Highway Improvements Project. Proposed improvements will include roadway resurfacing or reconstruction; left turn lanes at Flamingo Road, Kumuha Street, and Humuniki Street; sidewalks and curb ramps on the mauka-side of the highway meeting compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA); bicycle route improvements; utility upgrades; and drainage improvements. Areas along Kalanianaʻole Highway that do not have concrete sidewalks will have a paved shoulder. Call 692-7545.

8 / Saturday

WAAF Power Outage — A day-long power outage, 8 a.m.-6 p.m., is scheduled for Wheeler Army Airfield, East Range and Leilehua Golf Course. Watch upcoming “Traffic Reports” for updates and a map of the affected areas.

10 / Monday

Shafter Closures — There will be

intermittent road closures, weekdays, 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m., at Wilson Road near Bldg. 420 and the Post Exchange. Construction work will occupy Wilson Road from Bldg. 420 to the entrance of the PX parking lot at Pierce Street and Wilson Road. Traffic on Wilson Road will be restricted to only local traffic to and from Bldg. 420; the PX parking lot entrance at Pierce Street and Wilson Road will still be accessible to two-way traffic; traffic on Montgomery Drive headed towards the PX will be detoured onto Pierce Street; traffic on Warner Road headed towards the PX will be detoured onto Pierce Street between Bldg. 435 and Bldg. 438.

No Kolekole — Schofield’s Kolekole Avenue will be closed at Flagler Street and will detour south toward Foote Gate. Traffic from Foote Gate will be detoured to Waianae Ave. Work will be done overnight and ends Aug. 28.

14 / Friday

Don’t Cross — There will be temporary barricades set up on the crosswalk at Schofield’s Kolekole Avenue, between Bldg. 2076 and Sgt. Yano Library, to notify pedestrians of its pending, permanent removal, Aug. 21.



Photos by 29th Brigade Support Battalion, Hawaii Army National Guard

Six members of Charlie Medical Company, 29th BSB, Hawaii Army National Guard, gather in the TAMC Oceanside lobby before their shift. The medical professionals were force multipliers for TAMC and Schofield Barracks, July 13-24.

29th BSB supports TAMC

SCHOFIELD MEDICAL FACILITIES
USAG-Hawaii Public Affairs

HONOLULU — Company C, 29th Brigade Support Battalion, Hawaii Army National Guard, did its best to live up to its motto, “Charlie Leads the Way,” as eighteen of its medical personnel provided support at Tripler Army Medical Center and Schofield Barracks Health Clinic, July 13-24.

“The mission allows Soldiers to revalidate, expand, and practice their skills and knowledge,” said Sgt. Roberto Ramilo. “By embedding Charlie Medical Company with TAMC and SBHC medical facilities and personnel, Soldiers gain a great experience and exposure to higher level medical operations.”

Guardsmen don’t have the opportunity to use their practical, clinical, and medical skills on a day-to-day basis, explained medic Sgt. Stephanie Enos-Wong.

“All the experience that we gain during our annual training is extremely helpful in maintaining our MOS and becoming and growing into better Soldiers,” said Enos-Wong.

The permanent staff’s at TAMC and SBHC appreciated the company’s support; the workload was lighter and patients received care more rapidly.

“Charlie Medical Company, 29th BSB has made a tremendous impact to the sections they were supporting due to low manpower from active duty training exercises, permanent change of station and summer leave schedules for active duty members,” said Lt. Col. Derek Morton, chief of Reserve Affairs, Regional Health Command-Pacific.

According to Morton, Charlie Medical Company provided a sense of community within the facilities when seen providing healthcare to TAMC and SBHC patients. It also provided a better understanding of Hawaiian culture to the TAMC and SBHC staff, which is important because the facilities have a unique patient

population.

The 18 company members included physical therapists, medics, behavioral health specialists and medical logistics Soldiers. They saw 929 patients and worked a combined 1,299 hours. They learned from experienced health care providers and shared their experiences, military and civilian, with the permanent medical staff.

“I got to witness at least one delivery per day and see what they do after the baby is delivered,” said Charlie medic Sgt. Eric Okada, who worked in the labor and delivery ward at TAMC. “It was really awesome.”

Spc. Markneil Viernes, who also worked in labor and delivery, added, “I always wanted to work with babies, and learning about the delivery process shows me what to expect when I have children of my own.”

Charlie Medical Company counted its experience at TAMC and SBHC as invaluable, and the unit hopes to continue training at the island facilities.

(Editor’s note: 1st Lt. Torri A. Ishihara, 29th Brigade Support Battalion, Hawaii Army National Guard, provided the information for this story.)



Spc. Patrick Olaes of C Co., 29th BSB, practices his intravenous technique on teammate Spc. Ed Mercado, as Sgt. Nathaniel Yacapin supervises the training.

338th Band tours Army Hawaii w/musical teams

Story and photo by
SGT. FIRST CLASS LATONYA KELLY,
367th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

HONOLULU — The 338th U.S. Army Reserve Command Band performed concerts and ceremonies throughout Hawaii, July 12-25, for its mandatory annual training.

Soldiers focused on musical and vocal strengths while musical performance teams (MPTs) performed, simultaneously, at multiple venues. This is the first time band members of the 338th have publicly performed as MPTs to increase training and exposure.

With professional musical guidance provided by Chief Warrant Officer 4 Ronald S. Kuntz and Command Sgt. Maj. Wayne Buckley, the MPTs conducted ceremonial, patriotic, classical, country, jazz and rock music performances to share with Soldiers and local Hawaiian communities.

“I have been playing in the Army band for 29 years and this is my first encounter with following the footsteps of active Army by incorporating MPT in annual training,” said Sgt. 1st Class Betsy Buckmaster.

The band regularly performs at ceremonies, holidays, parades and sporting events for communities in Ohio and Michigan.

“Being part of a MPT has given me a creative outlet to express myself and grow,” expressed Buckmaster.

pressed Buckmaster.

Band members agreed that playing in MPTs is ideal training that showcases several individualized talents. Sgt. Thomas “TJ” Wolfgrahm displayed his multiple talents with a rock’n’roll MPT called Cover Down, by playing the saxophone and bass guitar and singing lead vocals.

Wolfgrahm said, “Music is heartfelt, and how you express it impacts the sounds that comes out.”

During 14 days of training, the 338th substituted for the Tropic Lightning Band, including two changes of command (one aboard the USS Missouri) and a Flying V.

“We are thankful for the music during the Flying V ceremony, helping to stir the emotions of patriotism provided by the 338th Reserve Command Band,” said Gen. Vincent K. Brooks, commander, U.S. Army-Pacific.

“As a former trumpeter, the 338th Army Band is absolutely flawless and added value to the ceremony,” said Maj. Gen. Christopher P. Hughes.

338th brass and woodwind quintets performed at the Hale Koa in Waikiki.

“The advantage of having MPTs ... gave us an opportunity to conquer more performances and provide different genres to audiences,” said Staff Sgt. Amy Ashcraft.



The U.S. Army Reserve Command Band performs at the Ala Moana Center in Honolulu. The band’s teams performed at locations throughout Hawaii from July 12-25.



Friday, July 31, 2015

Photo by Brent Suyama, Hawaii State Department of Education

(Inset) Hawaii Governor David Ige, third from left, joins Brig. Gen. Gary Brito, 25th Infantry Division deputy director of Operations, left; Stephen Schatz, deputy superintendent of the Hawaii State Department of Education, second from left; Col. Richard Fromm, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii commander, second from right; and Jan Iwase, principal of Hale Kula Elementary School, right, pose for a photo with students at the blessing and open house for the new Building O.

New Hale Kula school building reflects partnerships

BY KAREN A. IWAMOTO
Staff Writer

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Students at Hale Kula Elementary School started the 2015 academic year on Wednesday with a brand-new two-story, 10-classroom building featuring an open-space layout that supports modern teaching methods.

Classrooms in the new Building O are at least double the size of the average classroom, with dividing panels that can be left open to allow students from different classes or grades to interact, or closed to separate groups of students. Extra wide hallways double as “learning hubs” that will allow teachers to conduct activities outside of the classrooms as well.

“I love it. It’s really exciting to see,” said Mailei Stachel, a third grade teacher who gets to call one of the new classrooms her own. “It’s going to change the way we teach.”

Collective commitment

Stachel was among those who gathered on campus to celebrate the official unveiling of the building during a blessing and open house ceremony on Monday morning. She and her students are among those who will benefit most directly from the new amenities, but bringing the building to fruition was a years-long collaborative effort between state and federal government officials, the U.S. Department of Defense, the Hawaii state Department of Education and U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii.

“The education of our children is a major quality-of-life issue and one of the Army’s highest priorities,” Col. Richard Fromm, commander of U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, during his opening remarks at Monday’s ceremony. “The new construction and renovations...will increase student achievement for all Hale Kula Elementary students.”

Added Hawaii Gov. David Ige, “This is truly a reinvestment and recommitment to our communities, especially those that serve our military dependents here in Hawaii.”



Photo by Byron Nagasako, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii School Liaison Office

Students interact in one of the classrooms in the new Building O at Hale Kula Elementary School.

Washington support

It began in 2011, when Congress approved the distribution of \$250 million in grants to construct, renovate, repair or expand elementary and secondary public schools on military installations.

Hale Kula Elementary School was chosen as one of the first schools in Hawaii to apply for a portion of the grant money. The choice was based on the results of a 2011 DOD Educational Facilities Review, which assessed the physical condition and capacity of 157 public schools on military installations.

Hale Kula Elementary School eventually received a \$26,560,000 grant from the Department of

Defense’s Office of Economic Adjustment. The Hawaii state DOE contributed an additional \$6.6 million.

Groundbreaking for the renovation and construction—which, in addition to the Building O, will also include a new library/media building and a covered playground—began in March 2013. A new administrative building, which was also part of the project, was completed last year.

Principal Jan Iwase pointed out that this was the first major construction and renovation of the school since it was built in 1959 — the same year Hawaii became a state.

Since then, the school’s population has grown and teachers had taken to conducting classes in 14 portable buildings.

“It was really exciting to (be part of) designing the building,” Iwase said, adding that school officials worked closely with Army officials and the architectural firm Design Partners Incorporated to create a building that would support the next generation of learners. “But to see this building come to fruition was really, really exciting.”

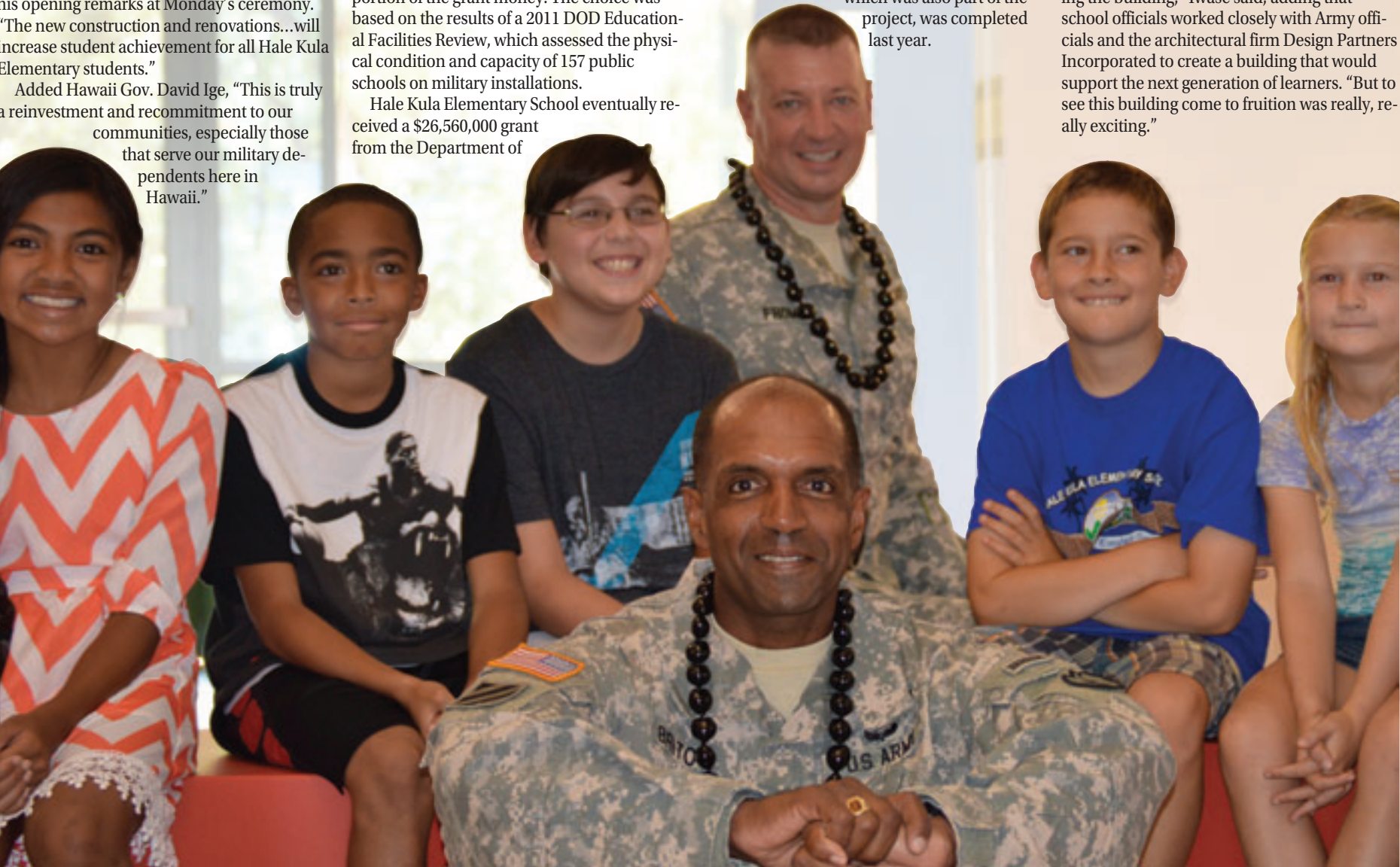


Photo by Karen A. Iwamoto, Oahu Publications

Brig. Gen. Gary Brito of the 25th ID DCO, center front, and Col. Richard Fromm, commander USAG-HI, center back, pose with students at Hale Kula Elementary School’s newly constructed Building O, which houses 10 modern classrooms on two floors.



Briefs

Today

Outdoor Recreation Special — All weekend programs through Sept. 30 are 50 percent off. Learn more at HiMWR.com or call 655-0143.

Hawaiian Luau Lunch Buffet — Enjoy delicious local-style food, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., every last Friday of the month. Cost is \$14.95/per person. Call SB Kolekole Bar & Grill at 655-4466 or FS Hale Ikena at 438-1974 for reservations or more information.

Right Arm Night — Free event open to Soldiers, spouses and DOD civilians, 5-7 p.m., features heavy pupu and drink specials at the SB Nehelani Koa Ballroom.

August
1 / Saturday

Gabriel “Fluffy” Iglesias Performs — Air Force Reserve presents: “Tour for the Troops, featuring Gabriel Iglesias” at 7:30 p.m., Aug. 1, on SB Weyand Field. No tickets required. Open to DOD ID cardholders and their authorized guests. Bring your blankets and lawn chairs for this fun-filled event. Call 655-0111.

2 / Sunday

Grill Your Way into Summer — Enjoy a delicious steak grilled to perfection by Tropics staff, noon – 5 p.m., during August. Also, enjoy sand volleyball, limbo, water balloon toss, corn-hole toss and more. Call 655-5698.

3 / Monday

Workweek Lunch — Enjoy lunch from 11 a.m.-1 p.m for only \$10.95/per person at SB’s Kolekole Bar & Grill and FS’s Mulligan’s Bar & Grill. Order off the menu or help yourself to the multi-item buffet. Call 655-4466 (SB) or 438-1974 (FS).
Review menus at www.himwr.com/dining/kolekole-bar-a-grill/kolkole-lunch-buffet and www.himwr.com/dining/hale-ikena/hale-ikena-lunch-buffet-menu for the week’s current lunch specials.

Mongolian Barbeque — Monday “create your own stir fry” begins at 5 p.m. on Mondays at the Nehelani. Delicious, healthy food that you can custom create in endless different ways using a variety of meats, poultry, seafood, vegetables, sauces and spices.

Children’s menu is available. Cost is 65 cents for each ounce. Call 655-4466.



Federal firefighters, left, pose with children at the 2014 National Night Out event at IPC’s Wheeler Community Center. The event promotes community bonding and safety awareness.



National Night Out is August 7

Story & photos by
ISLAND PALM COMMUNITIES LLC
News Release

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — A fun-filled evening is planned for families at the annual National Night Out celebration to be held on August 7 beginning at 4:30 p.m. at Island Palm Communities Kaena Community Center on Schofield Barracks.

The festivities kick off with a Super-hero Parade followed by exciting safety-themed activities for the whole family and a movie on the lawn at 7 p.m.

Families should bring chairs and blankets so they can kick back, relax and enjoy the featured film, “The Avengers: Age of Ultron.”

Interactive exhibits, demonstrations and activities promoting safety within homes and in the community will be showcased by IPC, USAG-Hawaii’s Directorate of Emergency Services (DES), the Federal Fire Department, the Honolulu Police Department, the U.S. Coast Guard and other agencies and organizations.

Kids can ride their bikes to the event then test their skills navigating a cool bike rodeo course, and parents can get their keiki fingerprinted and introduce their little ones to McGruff the Crime Dog and Eddie the Eagle. The K-9 Unit will put on an exciting demonstration at 6 p.m., and kids will have a chance to meet the unit’s four-legged heroes.

Event-goers will enjoy complimentary pizza, cotton candy, popcorn and shave ice. More fun can be found on a 16-foot inflatable slide and face-painting and balloon-twisting booths. Mechanical stuffed animals also will be part of the mix, giving kids of all ages a chance to ride them.

National Night Out has been held across the country for 32 years to heighten safety awareness and promote police-community partnerships, crime prevention and bring communities together.

www.islandpalmcommunities.com



aged to attend Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers meetings every Wednesday of the month to discuss community service projects and fun upcoming programs. Get involved and make a difference.

•South meetings are held at FS Bowling Center at 10 a.m., every second and fourth Wednesday.

•North meetings are held at SB Tropics, at 3 p.m., every first and third Wednesday.

Cooking Club for Teens — The FS Teen Lounge is looking for teens who enjoy cooking, want to learn new recipes, want to participate in food tours and shows and want to earn cooking award points toward reward excursions.

The cooking club meets 3-4 p.m., every Wednesday. Call the teen manager at 438-6470.

Keiki Night — From 5-8 p.m. every Wednesday night is Keiki Night at SB Kolekole Bar & Grill. Kids under 10 eat for a \$2.99 from the keiki menu. Call 655-4466 or 438-1974.

6 / Thursday

Tropical Thursdays — Join the SB Tropics Recreation Center every Thursday for Texas Hold’em. The fun starts at 6 p.m. A free weekly tournament (with no buy in) lets you test your skills against the best of the best Army players around. All ID cardholders 18 and older are welcome. Call 655-5698.

8 / Saturday

AMR Parents Night Out — CYS offers this service to parents of CYS Services registered keiki, 6-11 p.m., at

AMR CDC, Bldg. 1783; and AMR School Age Center, Bldg. 1782. Reservations will be accepted on a first-come first-served basis at the Parent Central Services office at AMR, 833-5393.

Movies on the Lawn — Enjoy a free movie under the stars at Weyand Field. Activities start at 6 p.m. and the movie “Despicable Me 2” begins at 7:30 p.m. Bring your blanket, lawn chairs and snacks.

Ongoing

Torch Club — The Torch Club is looking for volunteer teen leaders. Torch Club members help plan and organize teen events, manage the teen lounge, attend leadership camps and trips, meet new teens and have fun participating in leadership and social activities. Meetings are held 3:30 p.m., once a week at the Fort Shafter Teen Lounge. Call 438-6470 for more info.

SKIES Unlimited Theatre Class — Do you have the Golden Ticket? Would you like a tour of the Chocolate Factory? Be a part of the next SKIES Unlimited theatre production at SB. Call 655-9818.

Pacific Teen Panel — AMR/FS Teen Center Teen Panel is looking for interested teens who want to serve on the PTP for the AMR/Tripler/Fort Shafter communities. Teens must be CYS Services registered, in the 9th-11th grade and participate in youth

See MWR B-5



Send announcements
a week prior to publication to
community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com

Today

1 / Saturday

Kolekole — The SB Kolekole Walking/Hiking Trail is open Saturday and Sunday, 5:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m., to DOD ID cardholders and their guests. Do not park at the trail from 6:30 p.m.-5:30 a.m. Violators will be ticketed. Use of the trail is permitted only during open hours.

Kuhio Beach Hula Show — Free show, 6-7 p.m., Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at the Kuhio Beach Hula Mound, near the Duke Kahanamoku statue, weather permitting. Call 843-8002. Seating on the grass, beach chairs, mats and cameras are welcome.

Augie T “Laugh Under the Stars” — A night of comedy begins

at 5 p.m. at the Waikiki Shell, in Kapiolani Park, and is headlined by local favorite Augie T. For ticket information visit blaisdellinfo@honolulu.gov or call 768-6400.

7 / Friday

Alice (in Wonderland) — Ballet Hawaii joins The Washington Ballet to present this timeless story based on the Lewis Carroll’s “Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland,” Aug. 7-9 at the Blaisdell Concert Hall.

Tickets range from \$35-\$99. Ticket and event information is available from the Blaisdell Box Office located at 777 Ward Avenue during regular box office hours; Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. -5 p.m. Tickets are on sale now at www.ticketmaster.com. For more information call (808) 521-8600 or visit www.ballet-hawaii.org.

First Friday Street Festival — Honolulu’s Chinatown and the art district nightlife comes alive every first Friday of the month, 8 p.m.-2 a.m., with entertainment, food and activities. Sponsored by Arts District Mer-

chant Association. Call 521-1812; visit www.artsdistricthonolulu.com.

16 / Sunday

Shrek the Musical — Due to high demand, the tale of a hulking green ogre will run through Aug. 16 at Diamond Head Theatre. Call 733-0274 or go online for tickets at www.diamondheadtheatre.com.

22 / Saturday

Na Koa Wounded Warrior Regatta — Registration is underway now for the 2015 Na Koa Wounded Warrior Regatta, Aug. 22, at Fort DeRussy Beach. This event supports and honors wounded warriors.

It’s open to all categories of military, including active duty, retired, combat veterans, National Guard, reservists and Gold Star families. Register at Nakoaregatta.org.

Ongoing

Keith Urban Concert — One of the industry’s most electrifying live performers, four-time Grammy Award winner and American Idol judge Keith Urban, will perform at

the Blaisdell Arena, Oct. 7. Tickets are on sale now at the Blaisdell Box Office, Ticketmaster.com, all Ticketmaster outlets, including all Walmart locations on Oahu, Maui, Kauai and the Big Island, or charge by phone at 1-800-745-3000.

Vehicle Registration

The City and County of Honolulu satellite vehicle registration office at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam is open for business, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, at 915 North Road, Bldg. 1314, in the Club Pearl Complex.

The service is open to all military personnel, their family members and civilians from all military bases with base access.

Honolulu City Arts and Culture — Learn about current and upcoming free events sponsored by the Mayors office at <http://www.honolulu.gov/moca/moca-calendar.html>

New Museum Hours — U.S. Army Museum of Hawaii at Fort DeRussy will temporarily change its operating hours to 9 a.m.- 4:15 p.m., Tuesday-Saturday.



Additional religious services, children’s programs, educational services and contact information can be found at www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil. (Click on “Religious Support Office” under the “Directorates and Support Staff” menu.)

- AMR: Aliamanu Chapel
- FD: Fort DeRussy Chapel
- HMR: Helemano Chapel
- MPC: Main Post Chapel, Schofield Barracks
- PH: Aloha Jewish Chapel, Pearl Harbor
- SC: Soldiers’ Chapel, Schofield Barracks
- TAMC: Tripler Army Medical Center Chapel
- WAAF: Wheeler Army Airfield Chapel

Buddhist Services

- First Sunday, 1 p.m. at FD
- Fourth Sunday, 1 p.m. at MPC Annex

Catholic Mass

- Thursday, 9 a.m. at AMR
- Saturday, 5 p.m. at TAMC, WAAF
- Sunday services:
 - 8:30 a.m. at AMR
 - 10:30 a.m. at MPC Annex
 - 11 a.m. at TAMC
- Monday-Friday, 11:45 a.m. at Soldiers’ Chapel and 12 p.m., TAMC

Gospel Worship

- Sunday, noon. at MPC
- Sunday, 12:30 p.m. at AMR

Islamic Prayers and Study

- Friday, 1 p.m. at MPC Annex
- Friday, 2:30 p.m., TAMC
- Saturday and Sunday, 5:30 a.m.; 6, 7 and 8 p.m. at MPC Annex

Jewish Shabbat (Sabbath)

- Friday, 7:30 p.m. at PH

Pagan (Wicca)

- Friday, 7 p.m. at Wheeler Annex

Protestant Worship

- Sunday Services
 - 9 a.m. at MPC
 - 9 a.m., at FD, TAMC chapel
 - 10 a.m. at HMR
 - 10:30 a.m. at AMR
 - 11:30 a.m. at WAAF (Spanish language)
 - 11 a.m. at SC (Contemporary)
- Liturgical (Lutheran/Anglican)**
- Sunday, 10 a.m. at WAAF



Call 624-2585 for movie listings or go to aaefes.com under reeltime movie listing.



Mad Max

(PG)

Fri., July 31, 7 p.m..

Inside Out

(PG)

Sat., Aug. 1, 4 p.m.

Sun., Aug. 2, 2 p.m.

Jurassic World

PG-13)

Sat., Aug. 1, 7 p.m.

Insidious Chapter 3

(PG-13)

Thurs., Aug. 6, 7 p.m.



No shows on Mondays, Tuesdays or Wednesdays.

Calendar abbreviations

- 8th TSC: 8th Theater Sustainment Command
- 25th ID: 25th Infantry Division
- ACS: Army Community Service
- AFAP: Army Family Action Plan
- AFTB: Army Family Team Building
- AMR: Aliamanu Military Reservation

- ASYMCA: Armed Services YMCA
- BCT: Brigade Combat Team
- BSB: Brigade Support Battalion
- Co.: Company
- CYSS: Child, Youth and School Services
- EFMP: Exceptional Family Member Program
- FMWR: Family and Morale, Welfare and

- Recreation
- FRG: Family Readiness Group
- FS: Fort Shafter
- HMR: Helemano Military Reservation
- IPC: Island Palm Communities
- PFC: Physical Fitness Center
- SB: Schofield Barracks

- SKIES: Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills
- TAMC: Tripler Army Medical Center
- USAG-HI: U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii
- USARPAC: U.S. Army-Pacific
- WAAF: Wheeler Army Airfield



Spc. Kyle W. Trigg, a cannon crewmember assigned to Battery B, 2nd Bn., 11th FAR, 2nd SBCT, 25th ID, plays taps to honor Wahiawa war heroes during the first Wahiawa District Park War Memorial Ceremony July 26. The ceremony was designed to highlight the lives and contributions that 21 veterans made to the community during their time in the military.

2nd SBCT honors contributions of local WWII Soldiers

Story and photos by
STAFF SGT. CARLOS DAVIS
2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team
25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

WAHIAWA — Soldiers participated in a ceremony, July 26, at the Wahiawa District Park War Memorial Swimming Pool to honor 21 Soldiers who fought bravely to protect freedom in their country during World War II.

The ceremony honored the 21 Sons of Wahiawa who donated money to build the Wahiawa community during their service in WWII.

Soldiers of 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, were honored to be a part of the first Dedication Memorial Ceremony and presented a 21-gun salute in honor of those 21 Soldiers.

“We are really pleased to be a part of this ceremony; we are really pleased to come out here and work with the community and also just honored to support the community as they honor their war heroes,” said 2nd Lt. Macklin Wagner, the fire directional officer assigned to Battery B, 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd SBCT.

Long History
The relationship between the military and the Wahiawa community dates back to 1944. According to Jeanne Ishikawa, in 1944, the citizens of Wahiawa raised \$800 to support Soldiers who enlisted into the Army from Hawaii and fought in WWII. However, the Sons of Wahiawa decided to put the money back into the community.

“Instead of spending the money on themselves the (Soldiers) from Wahiawa elected to send the money back (to Hawaii) and use it to form an organization that would continue to serve the community,” she said.

“This swimming pool is something that the community came together and built to honor the 21 Soldiers who died in the war and was something they built for the future of Wahiawa,” she continued.

Wahiawa Lion International Club President Don Robbins, the event coordinator, said he’s honored to continue the relationship between the community and the military.

“By dedicating this swimming pool to the 21 Sons of Wahiawa and having the Soldiers of 2-



11 FAR here today we are honored to continue the legacy, friendship, and relationship between the Wahiawa community and the military,” said Robbins.

Just as the 21 Sons of Wahiawa were honored to serve this community and country, today’s Soldiers stationed at Schofield Barracks, continue to carry the torch.

“It carries on the strong tradition of service that these men, our forefathers undertook when their country called upon them, that we currently undertake today, and what others will take after us,” Wagner added. “So there is always someone picking up mantel.”

Ishikawa said the Wahiawa War Memorial Swimming Pool was the first recreational swimming pool in the county.

“For generations our families have enjoyed this pool,” she said. “Before this swimming pool was built people were swimming in what we called the river by the train tracks.”

The Wahiawa War Memorial Swimming Pool is a symbol of the bond, appreciation and the legacy the community shares with the military.



Citizens, Gold Star Families and friends present leis in memory of the 21 Sons of Wahiawa during the first Wahiawa District Park War Memorial Ceremony, July 26.

IPC showcases HMR housing

Island Palm Communities LLC
News Release

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Military retirees, members of the Guard and Reserves, and Department of Defense employees all have an opportunity live on post. Island Palm Communities will host an open house, 10 a.m.-noon, Aug. 8, at Helemano Military Reservation.

“We received a phenomenal response to open houses we held in April and June, and we’ve continued to receive calls from retirees as well as DOD civilians who are interested in living on base,” said Tom Adams, director of property management for IPC. “They recognize the value of living in one of our homes — from competitive rent rates that include utilities to the convenience of living close to work and use of great amenities.

“Our Helemano neighborhood is in a beautiful location atop the Wahiawa plain with truly wonderful views of the Ko’olau and Wai’anae mountain ranges,” Adams continued, “and it’s a short 10-minute drive to the North Shore.”

In addition to immediate availability at Helemano, homes also are available on Schofield Barracks and Wheeler Army Air Field. Rent includes utilities, front- and side-yard lawn service, maintenance support and access to community centers and recreational facilities. Units are partly furnished with all major appliances, including washing machines and dryers.

Learn More
For more information about the open house, call Island Palm Communities at 877-677-2063 or go to www.islandpalmcommunities.com.



Photo courtesy of Island Palm Communities

Rent at IPC includes utilities, front- and side-lawn services, household-maintenance services and access to community facilities.



Photo by Liana Kim, 311th Signal Command Public Affairs

Soldiers of the 311th Sig. Cmd. and other volunteers pose after the Tantalus cleanup.

311th helps with cleanup

TYLER OGOSHI
311th Signal Command (Theater)

FORT SHAFTER — Soldiers from the 311th Signal Command worked together with Spartan Race Hawaii and other community leaders on July 18 to dispose of trash thrown on the sides of Tantalus Hill.

The volunteer Soldiers from the 311th will be competing in Spartan Race Hawaii on Aug. 15 and have been training and preparing themselves for the race. So when Spartan Race Hawaii announced a cleanup event on its Facebook page, the Soldiers volunteered immediately.

“I always try to volunteer ...it’s mutually beneficial for all. Soldiers get out of the barracks and get volunteer time, and bring a sense of unity in the community,” said Staff Sgt. Sheena Kerr-Freeman of the 311th G2 Intelligence shop.

Members of the Tantalus Community Association have been conducting quarterly cleanups in the area since 1983-84. The events help maintain various portions of the Honolulu Watershed Forest Preserve.

“We really do appreciate the help,” said

Carolyn “Carly” Carley, TCA Work Day chairwoman. “It’s nice to give to the mountain, and it feels good when you drive down the mountain and it’s clean and clear of rubbish.”

Keeping the area clean of debris is important for residents in the Tantalus area, since most of their water comes from a rain catchment system.

“All of our water is filtered by the lava rock, so the water we keep from the water catchment is very little treated,” said JJ Johnson, director of Spartan Race Hawaii and local community leader.

United by a common challenge, community members and outside volunteers worked together as a team to remove heaps of garbage from the grass and weeds that bordered the road. At the end of the day, the group hauled dozens of stuffed garbage bags, each one full of trash picked up off the side of the road.

“I feel accomplished, like I made a difference in the community,” said Sgt. Tania Vargas, a budget analyst for the 311th. “It’s a new feeling for (me and my husband), and it felt really good to give back.”

Traveling with kids can be culture and torture

Ah, summertime ... that happy time of year, when after months of running the veritable hamster wheel of work, school, bills and chores, we finally loosen up and have a little fun.

Hike the Appalachian Trail? Take a Caribbean cruise? Stay at a B&B in the French countryside? Camp in the Grand Canyon? Sight-see at Yosemite? Rent a beach house in the Outer Banks?

Simple, adventurous or extravagant, the point is to relax and have a good time.

But, wait. Hold up. Just a sec. (Cue tire-screeching sound effects.) What do we do with the kids?

Unless you have a team of well-paid nannies who will keep your offspring entertained at home all week (not likely on our military budget), then I’ve got some bad news: The kids are coming along!

Instead of leisurely lunching on brie and wine at a Parisian street café, you’ll find yourself nibbling nuggets at the McDonalds on the Champs d’Elysie. Rather than braving class 4 rapids on Pennsylvania’s Ohio Pyle Gorge, you’ll be splashing the sticky cotton candy off your face on the logjam at Six Flags. Forget about scheduling your couples’ massage at the spa, because you’ll be wading in a suspiciously cloudy kiddie pool at a motel off the interstate.

Take this all from me; I know.

While stationed in California, England, Virginia, Germany and Florida, I planned countless family trips. I wanted to jam-pack our time overseas and in different states with cultural and educational experiences that our kids would appreciate for the rest of their lives. Problem was I forgot, oh, yea, they’re kids. Bummer.

I soon learned that kids don’t want to wait two hours for traditional, indigenous foods at an authentic local restaurant. They could care less about mountain scenery or sylvan country settings, and they absolutely hate lingering in art and history museums.

We discovered the hard way that, unless we were planning a trip to the Threshold of Hell, we’d better figure out how to keep the kids happy.

First, we adopted The Cardinal Rule of Traveling with Children: “Lower your expectations.”

Don’t envision authentic ambiance, cultural experience, thrilling adventure and romantic



interludes. Just tell yourself that your family vacation will be about as relaxing and cultural as chaperoning a fifth grade field trip to Bowl-O-Rama. With that mindset, you’re bound to be pleasantly surprised.

Next, follow the strategies I finally learned while on the brink of family vacation insanity:

- My kids are so cultured; they have thrown up in six states and seven foreign countries. Nothing kills ambiance like the lingering scent of upchuck on your shoes, so keep a gallon of zip-lock bags and wet wipes in your purse at all times.

- Take appropriate steps, literally. Bell towers, monuments, castles, sand dunes, forts and tall buildings are great places to run the “squirrelly” out of kids. Beware that you may need a portable defibrillator for yourself, but a coronary event may be worth it if it means your kids will sit through dinner.

- Pommes fritz, furai, chips, papas fritas – whatever you call ‘em, don’t even think about sitting down at a restaurant that doesn’t have French fries on the menu.

- Space out. No, I’m not suggesting that you take sedatives while traveling with the kids, but find wide open spaces where you and hubby can soak up local ambiance while the rugrats spread their grubby little wings and fly. You can nibble local cheese and bread while they scare pigeons in the piazza, chase bumblebees in an alpine meadow or roll in the grass at a city park.

- Wet them down while you wet your whistle. When deciding where to stop for a glass of wine, look for a nearby fountain, stream, lake, pond, beach or tropical fish tank. If they can splash, throw rocks, feed ducks or tap on the glass, you have a decent chance of sipping your wine in peace.

Oh, and be sure to take lots of photos, because no matter how torturous family vacations may seem, take it from me, someday you’ll look back and wish you could do it all over again.



About 100 teens participated in IPC’s first Teen Swim/Movie night, July 24, at Fort Shafter Community Center.

Teen night makes splash

Story and photos by
ISLAND PALM COMMUNITIES LLC
News Release

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — “My teens had a really great time! Thank you so much for doing something that reaches out to this age group,” said Island Palm Communities resident Kari Post about IPC’s first Teen Swim & Movie Night at IPC community centers last week.

The two events were in response to comments shared in the Army’s CEL Resident Survey conducted in May, as well as suggestions and requests from IPC parents like Post.

“We had a great turnout with nearly 100 teenagers taking over our pool facilities at

Fort Shafter and Wheeler, and they had an opportunity to vote on what movies they wanted to watch,” said Tom Adams, IPC’s director of property management. “It was real treat for them, and we’re looking forward to working with our teens and parents to come up with more events for residents in this age group.”

Comments wanted

Teens and parents who have ideas for other activities of interest to teenagers are encouraged to contact Sheryl Ferido, IPC’s community services manager at 275-3159 or sferido@ipchawaii.com



Teens and family members swim and watch a movie, July 23, at IPC’s first Teen Swim/Movie night at Wheeler Army Air Field Community Center.

ACS Celebrates 50th birthday with Schofield bash

BY GENIE JOSEPH, PHD
Army Community Service

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — We’ve come a long way since 1965, when Soldiers often heard, “If the army wanted you to have a family it would have issued you one!”

Times have definitely changed as U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii celebrated Army Community Service’s 50th birthday July 24.

Evolving Priorities

As ACS celebrates this significant landmark, we are now guided by better wisdom reflected in the statement from Gen. Ray Odierno, 38th Chief of Staff of the Army, who often says, “The strength of our Nation is our Army, the strength of our Army is our Soldiers, the strength of our Soldiers is our families.”

This year ACS programs will touch Soldiers, families, veterans, survivors, and civilians more than 16 million times through numerous programs such as The Exceptional Family Member Program, which since 1979 has provided comprehensive and coordinated services to special needs families; or The Financial Readiness Program, created in 1984, which offers training and counseling on saving money, debt elimination, investing and fi-

nancial goal setting; or Army Family Team Building Program that trains family members in self-reliance and helps them to understand Army culture.

The Family Advocacy Program offers a variety of support services, including the New Parent Support Program as well as a team of victim advocates. Victim advocates are available 24/7 at 624-SAFE (7233) to answer questions about family dynamics or provide support to victims. In addition, the Family Advocacy Program has a variety of healthy-living classes, such as Daddy Boot Camp, Anger & Conflict Solutions, Play Mornings, Parenting 101, and Home Alone.

Growing

Worldwide, ACS has a staff of 1,332 people in 75 Garrison locations. But none of the great work would be possible without the astounding 125,588 volunteers who contributed 2.4 million hours in fiscal 2014. This spirit of giving and service is what ACS is all about. The volunteer tradition of caring for its own is as old as the Army itself. Even before ACS existed, Army spouses

provided services for those in need, such as lending closets, thrift shops, nurseries, raising funds for those in need, or assisting in personal emergencies.

Schofield party

On Friday over 300 people celebrated the grand celebration at Schofield as they enjoyed shave ice, great local-style food, a four-piece Hawaiian band, hula demonstrations, and a hula class for the keiki (children).

A guided tour of ACS featured the history of the organization – and staff wore historic ACS volunteer outfits from the ’60s and ’70s. A walking, talking, huge green Teddy bear brought many smiles.

Photo ACS

An overview of services ACS provides rounded out the tours. Brandi Stauber, ACS Chief stated, “We will continue our original mission to help our Army families remain Army Strong.”

ACS continues to prove that progress is ongoing – and that the strength of the Army and the nation rests in the arms of healthy and happy families.

Congratulations ACS! We know you’ll be around for another 50 years!



MWR: Upcoming events and programs offered

CONTINUED FROM B-2

activities.

PTP participants are advocates for their peers participating in monthly teleconference calls or video teleconference with other youth in the Pacific. Call the AMR Youth Center at 833-0920 or Fort Shafter Middle School and Teen Program at 438-6470.

SKIES Unlimited Hula Classes — Schofield and AMR host hula classes for \$35/per month. Call 655-9818 for class availability or log onto the www.himwr.com for more details.

CYS Services — The USAG-HI School Liaison Office has opened an office at AMR, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Tuesdays and Fridays, in Bldg. 1782, next to the SKIES studio. Call 655-1130.

First-Termers Financial Training — This ACS Financial Resilience Center workshop focuses on basic financial skills to help develop self-reliance and personal responsibility designed to help understand personal finances while learning tools for financial success.

This is a mandatory program of instruction for first-term Soldiers, offered every Monday (except federal holidays), 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., at SB Bldg. 647. Soldiers must bring an end-of-month LES.

A certificate is awarded to each participant who completes the eight hours of instruction. Call 655-1866.

Auto Repairs — Services are now offered by Tech-Center Hawaii at the SB Auto Skills Center. Get quality repairs at affordable prices. Call 888-2931 or 769-7454.

Story Time at FS Library — Every first and third Tuesday free preschool session features reading, dancing and crafts. Call 438-9521.

Yoga Dance Class — Yoga Dance class for 3-18-year-olds and the Art of Middle Eastern Dance for 5-18-year-olds at AMR and SB SKIES Studios. Costs \$35 per month/per child. Call SKIES at 655-9818.

SKIES Dance Classes — Participate in dance at SKIES Unlimited AMR and SB studios. The SKIES Dance program offers a variety of dance classes, including rhythm in motion for 2-year-olds; beginner/intermediate dance combo for ballet and tap, for 3-5 and 6-9-year-olds; hip-hop; and ballroom dancing. Call 655-9818.

RV/Boat/Jet Ski Lot — Not enough space? Store your recreation equipment with the Auto Skills Center. Costs \$40 for 16-foot and below, and \$50 for any above 16-feet. Call SB at 655-9368 or FS at 438-9402.

Grill Your Own Steak Night — FS Hale Ikena presents a savory feature, 3-8 p.m., every first and third Friday of the month. Grill your own steak, or we'll be glad to do it for you for an additional cost. Served with a baked potato and chef's choice of vegetable. Call 438-1974.

DeCA Gift Cards offer unique value

MIKE PERRON,
DeCA public affairs

FORT LEE, Va. – Looking for a gift to please your favorite military service member, but running short on ideas? Have you scoured the Web, searching online offer after online offer, trying to find that special gift with the best bang for your hard-earned buck? Look no further than your local commissary, or online at www.commissaries.com.

Commissary Gift Cards – available to anyone online and in-store for authorized shoppers – are a unique way to give the gift of groceries. And with the commissary's average savings of 30 percent built in, you know you're getting maximum value for your gift dollar, whether as an organization or individual gift giver.

Maybe that's why the gift card program, which entered its fifth year June 29, has proved to be so popular.

"We do about \$5 million a year in gift card sales," said Bob Bunch, the Defense Commissary Agency's gift card program manager. "When you look at it, the cards have provided more than 560,000 gifts of groceries, worth more than \$19 million."

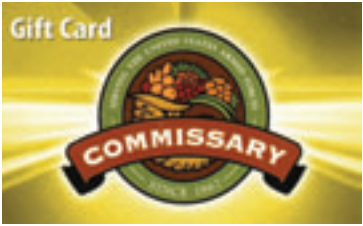
Also, according to Bunch, a Commissary Gift Card is more likely to be used than other types of gift cards.

"Our redemption rate is really phenomenal," he said, adding that almost 90 percent of all cards sold have been fully redeemed. "The average redemption rate for a standard gift card is about 75 percent."

How to...

Here are some Commissary Gift Card quick facts:

- Gift cards are available at all commissaries worldwide – on a rack at full service, front-end registers – as well as through the DeCA website, www.commissaries.com. Click on "Shopping," then "Gift cards" and then the "Place your order" box.
- Cards are good for five years from the date of purchase.



- Only gift cards purchased online incur a shipping and handling fee. There are no fees when the card is purchased in a store.
- There is no limit to the number of gifts cards that a purchaser can buy. However, DeCA officials recommend organizations and activities consider purchasing their cards online if they plan to purchase more than 50 at a time.
- The cards can be sent anywhere in the United States. However, cards can only be shipped to APO, FPO or DPO addresses outside the U.S.



File photo

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The Commissary gift card program offers patrons the chance to maximize the value of their gift, with average savings of 50 percent.

Online

To check card balances, visit www.commissaries.com, click on "Shopping," then "Gift Cards" and then the "Check your balance" box. Visit www.commissaries.com to learn more about the Defense Commissary Agency: Check out the latest news, find a store near you, see what's on sale, create a shopping list, learn of food and product recalls, scan employment opportunities, read frequently asked questions, submit a customer comment form online through DeCA's Your Action Line and more.



Photos by Franco Tramontano and Jim “Goose” Guzior, Tripler Army Medical Center Public Affairs

Tripler Army Medical Center nurse anesthetist and pro surfer 1st Lt. Mary Bagalso, 1984th AHD (top, left), participates in an interview (right) with director Heather Hudson in a surgical room at TAMC. The film crew was in Hawaii shooting Bagalso surfing and working as part of new surf film, “The Women and the Waves 2.”

TAMC nurse featured in ‘The Women and the Waves 2’

1ST LT. TORRI ISHIHARA,
C Company (Med), 29th Brigade Support Battalion

HONOLULU – It is 6:45 a.m. on Wednesday and the team and I are waiting in the Oceanside lobby of Tripler Army Medical Center. We are there for one reason and her name is Mary Grace Bagalso.

Bagalso greets us with a big smile and open arms. She is ready to welcome us into her world, let us take pictures and video her, and answer all of our questions. From the first interaction to the last goodbye, I could tell why Bagalso was chosen to be a part of something positive and inspirational.

High-profile nurse

Bagalso is one of six women who will be featured in the film, “The Women and the Waves 2,” directed and produced by Heather Hudson. Bagalso has been a nurse anesthetist at TAMC since August 2011. She recently commissioned into the 1984th United States Army Hospital Detachment, Hawaii, U.S. Army Reserve in March 2015 and is serving as a 1st lieutenant. She also is a renowned surfer who has won competition after competition and been featured in surfing magazines.

Hudson hopes her documentary inspires young women to make a positive difference in the world by making good choices. She wants young women to watch her film and say, “I can do that. I can make a difference and do something positive.” She feels Bagalso will convey that message because she is a positive role model who gives back to people and the planet.

“Mary is a ray of light, really positive, fun, super smart, and brave — I admire that,” Hudson said.

Both of Bagalso’s parents are nurses, so it was natural that she followed in their footsteps. Bagalso started surfing when she was in nursing school.

“Surfing was like going to church for me. It was my down time and relief from nursing school. It was a time to refocus and rejuvenate,” she said. She felt that nursing and surfing bal-

anced her life out.

“It’s good to have balance in your life,” Bagalso added. “You need to have something to care about other than surfing.” Bagalso worked as a nurse for 12 years before she became a nurse anesthetist. A friend who worked as a nurse anesthetist at the University of San Diego Medical Center encouraged her to pursue the career. Bagalso had knee surgery done at the same facility and her friend allowed her to see what anesthesia was all about during her time there. It was a stimulating experience that convinced her to become a nurse anesthetist.

TAMC tour

Bagalso feels that it is a privilege to work at TAMC and said she enjoys “taking care of Soldiers and families. They are really appreciative of health care.”

Her experience at TAMC and the fact that her dad is a retired Coast Guard member influenced her decision to join the U.S. Army Reserves.

“I enjoy that my dad has to salute me now,” she said. To Bagalso, TAMC offers a unique hospital work experience. Patients and staff come and go because it is a military community constantly in motion.

Bagalso found that it is important to take time to get to know people. She knows that if she doesn’t take the time to talk, listen and smile, the time will pass her by.

For this reason, Bagalso is well liked. “She is a great teacher,” said Capt. Alex Passmore, a student pursuing his doctorate of nurse anesthesia practice. “She has high expectations and I don’t want to let her down. I always learn something new.”

How does he feel knowing that she is also an incredible surfer?

“It’s cool. Everyone has a life outside of the hospital,” he said.

Bagalso’s favorite place to surf is in the Mentawai Islands of Indonesia, but she also stressed that “nothing is like Hawaii.”

Her advice to young surfers? “It’s good to love more than one thing,” she said. “Do not give up. You should try all kinds of surfing — don’t limit yourself and open your eyes to everything. “That does not just apply to surfing,” she added, “but in all aspects of life.”

Bagalso, the well-rounded individual, proves to be a well-qualified role model for young adults by inspiring young surfers and nurses to live a well-balanced life.

But Hudson adds this about Bagalso, “You’ve got to see Mary surf! ‘The Women and the Waves 2’ will showcase that as well as her commitment to Tripler and the Army.”



Photo courtesy of Franco Tramontano

Mary Bagalso, a pro surfer who also serves as an Army Reserve officer and nurse anesthetist at TAMC, catches a wave during a recent competition.

More evidence urges home-area mosquito controls

ZIA MEHR
Army News Service

Summer is officially here and many individuals are spending more time outdoors. Being outdoors increases one’s risk of being bitten by mosquitoes. Not only do mosquito bites make outdoor activities unpleasant, their bites can transmit diseases to people and domestic animals.

In the United States, mosquitoes can spread West Nile fever, dengue, chikungunya and several other debilitating diseases. Mosquitoes are also responsible for transmitting heartworms in dogs.

Video education

To better educate Army personnel about mosquito-borne disease, the Entomology Program of the Army Institute of Public Health has released a video on controlling mosquitoes in and around the home. The video can be reviewed on YouTube.

All mosquitoes have one common requirement — they need water to complete their life cycle.

“Mosquitoes grow in almost any source of water, including fresh water (even if heavily polluted), saltwater marshes, brackish water and sewage. Mosquitoes can live in the water in tin cans, bird baths, barrels, ornamental ponds, boats, canoes, dis-

carded tires, plant pots, clogged gutters and poorly maintained swimming pools,” said Tom Burroughs, entomology program manager at the AIPH.

Army entomologists say there are steps to decrease mosquito breeding and basic personal protective measures that can reduce chances of being bitten.

According to the video, one can controll mosquitoes in and around the home by reducing larval and adult populations and avoiding contact. Mosquitoes also bite indoors, so individuals need to prevent mosquitoes from gaining entry into living and sleeping quarters and eliminate those that might already be there.

Entomologists want individuals to keep in mind that adult mosquitoes can fly several miles from the water source where they developed. Therefore, attempts at controlling mosquitoes on certain premises may not eliminate all biting activity.

A community-wide effort may be needed to reduce mosquito levels, according to AIPH personnel.

“This will require the cooperation of neighboring homeowners, homeowners associations and local government agencies,” said Burroughs.

(Note: Mehr is an entomologist at the U.S. Army Public Health Command.)



Image courtesy U.S. Army Public Health Command

To better educate Army personnel on what they can do to protect against mosquito-borne disease, the Entomology Program of the Army Institute of Public Health has released a video on controlling mosquitoes in and around the home.



Photo courtesy of Army News Service

TAMC TIP

Breastfeeding



Aug. 1-7 is World Breastfeeding Week 2015. Breastfeeding is economical and the safest way to feed your baby.

It is personalized to the needs of “your” baby.

Breast milk is always the right temperature and contains antibodies as well as nutrition to aid baby’s all-around well-being. Breastfeeding is good for bonding and brain development of your baby and decreases the incidence of some female cancers in mom.

Ask your TAMC provider, midwife or nurse about the positive impacts of breastfeeding your baby.